News Release

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Lake Allatoona Levels falling – Why?

Mobile, Ala – The drought in the U.S. Southeast continues to impact U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District-managed lakes and Allatoona is no exception.

The elevation of Allatoona Lake was 835.4 on Wednesday, August 7 and is expected to fall below 835 by next week. This is 5 feet below normal summer pool.

The inflow into Lake Allatoona was about 50% of normal this year. In July the inflow was only 25% of normal. Due to continued drought, electrical generation has been restricted to 3 to 8 hours daily.

August is traditionally the peak month for power usage. Care was taken to preserve as much water as possible earlier this year, knowing additional power would be needed in August.

"Both public and private power lakes, are contributing to meeting this greater demand for electricity," said E. Patrick Robbins, chief of Public Affairs, US Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District. “We work in coordination with all power facilities in the S.E. so that no particular lake takes the brunt of generation needs,” he said.

Hydropower flows at Allatoona also provides a minimum flow for industrial water supply downstream on the Alabama River without the necessity of additional releases.

"The Corps makes every effort to conserve water during dry periods and still meet the multipurpose demands on the systems," Robbins said.

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Corps-managed reservoirs support multipurpose uses and demands which include flood control, water supply, hydropower, recreation, water quality, navigation, and fish and wildlife.

Forecasted lake levels and other water management information can be found at the Corps of Engineers, Mobile District Water Management Section's homepage at http://water.sam.usace.army.mil.

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